

# ONLINE MUSIC STORE (OMS)

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TECHNICAL REPORT SUBMITTED TO IN  
FULLFILLMENT OF THE DEGREE OF COMPUTER  
SCIENCE IN SOFTWARE ENGINEERING

FACULTY OF COMPUTER SYSTEMS AND  
SOFTWARE ENGINEERING

2013/2014

## **ABSTRACT**

In the music industry, to find a comprehensive system that meets all requirements are difficult. There are not too many of them in the world that produced a system like that. This project is done to overcome the lack of features in the music website. Online Music Store (OMS) is a web based system that design to build a well-defined website that acts as a music database. This system includes three categories of users which are unregistered user, users that classified registered user and musician, and admin. The methodology uses for the website development is Rapid Application Development (RAD). In this project, the enhancement of features increases the user's usability and creates a network among music enthusiastic.

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## **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

<b>ABBREVIATION</b>	<b>TITLE</b>
OMS	Online Music Store/Online Music System
The WKND	The Wknd Website
HTTP	Hypertext Transfer Protocol
HTTPS	Hypertext Transfer Protocol Secure
IP	Internet Protocol
I/O	Input and Output
PHP	Hypertext Preprocessor
PSM	Projek Sarjana Muda
SRS	Software Requirements Specifications
SDD	Software Design Description

## **PART 1: INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background**

After year 1997 where Capitol Records announce their intention to offer the single album from the new Duran Duran album in downloadable form on the Internet, many companies saw it as a threat to their sales. However, in 2003, Apple Computer launches the most successful online music store to date. In its first year, Apple sells 70 million songs at \$0.99 per song, creating nearly \$70 million in legal Internet music sales. This raises awareness among the “other side” that Internet also can be an effective sales medium in addition to retail store.

Today, we can found as many as music website in the Internet that evolved alongside others internet business industry. But the question is which website is comprehensive enough to achieve higher usability, performance, maintainability, and survivability?

Malaysia`s music industry also thrive concurrently with growth of the Internet technologies. Many musicians express their ideas in the website columns and also sells theirs work here. The availability of the Internet also gives the musician`s potential to sell-out their works around the world and connects with others. With this in mind I tried to develop a system that can give benefits to all musicians.

As music industries become more competitive, and are required to increase their standards, I believe the Online Music Store will become very popular choice for a music enthusiasm. I strongly believe this will prove to be a very worthwhile and profitable investment in the future of music.

## 1.2 Main Aims and Objectives

- i) To create music website for music enthusiasts aims to be as forum for all musicians and extend their knowledge with social network features in addition to promoting musicians works.
- ii) The system will act as a database of music in Malaysia, organized around local and international musicians.
- iii) To enhance the functionality of the typical music website with features such as social network, streaming, download, rating system, library system, profiling system and shopping cart system.

## 1.3 Problem Statement

There are many music websites can be found on the Internet. Even in Malaysia, there's a lot of music websites either for commercial or non-commercial purposes. These websites or systems were integrated by all people around the world. Some of them had little knowledge about the website development and some have enough knowledge to integrate it. With these kind of variety developers involved in the website development, many problems that occurs involving situation such as reliability, usability, performance, functionality and security had been found.

Typical problems that always found in the previous music websites are lack of features. Typically, music website should contains the details about musician, their materials such as albums and artworks if available, a playlist for the streaming of their music or downloadable area, comment box for the listeners to give comments, up-to-date news about the musician, musician and albums rating, purchases section, and all of the reasonable music features that should be there. From what I've found, these websites not comprehensive enough to fulfil the meaning of music website.

Some problems were found in others music website in Malaysia, like The Wknd (<http://www.the-wknd.com/>) website such as poof features integrated. Users can browse for the music they like but the resources are limited. For example the unavailability of the user whole album.

With the growing of the blog technology, many musicians involved themselves and created their own blogs to promote their works. Here we found the second problem regarding blog-type website which as we know stored information only for single musician/single musician group per website. In this website we can find all information about the musician but lack of usability and wasted time. This situation can be a problem for users to navigate. They need to jump into one site to another site for viewing process instead stay at one site.

Website designs are one of the important parts in the website development. Well-designed website will attract more users to visit and use the system. From what I've found, some of the previous music websites are poor in designed. We can start with background which contains unsuitable colours. Music website should contain minimal and light colour in background because of its large contents. User should be able to read the contents and applied it. As we know, music website had many contents that should be organized properly. For example the playlist should be in appropriate size and located properly without disturb others contents. Yes, contents management also the typical problems that can be found at the previous system. Since design topics are huge, conclusion can be made that design is important to the website development and this problems should be avoided.

#### **1.4 Review of Previous Work**

Currently, there is no related previous work that had relation with the same scope like this project. This project originally derived from my own idea. This idea started with my deep interest in music and would like to create my own music website. In the Internet, we can find variety type of music website. Those websites sometimes included the only up-to-date news and events features; others just have details and downloadable songs features. They are too many varieties of types to be classified here. With this idea, I've come up with my own idea to conclude all of these features into one website.

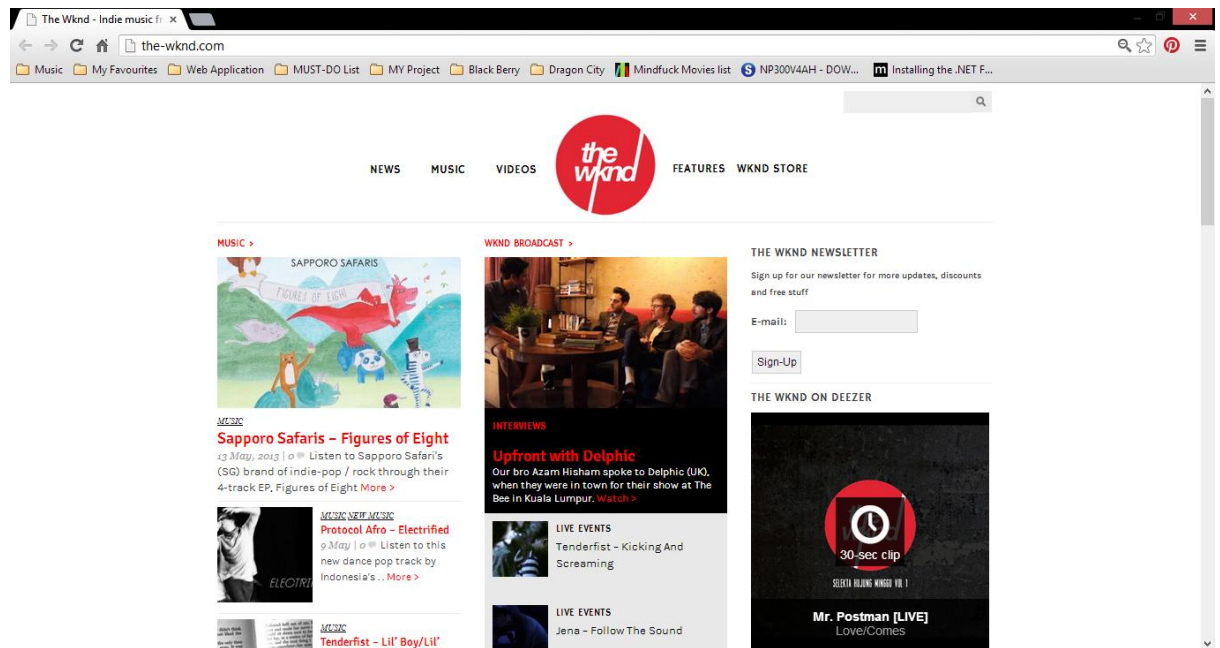
This type of music website that includes social network style is already implemented in the others country like U.S. As far as I'm doing my research, I don't see

any occurrence in this type of website in our country (Malaysia). With this, I can't recommend review about previous work regarding this type of website.

## 1.5 Review of Current System and Its Limitation

Currently, there is no system like this type of system which is music website with a social network features but I've found a similar system that a lot like this system. The system I meant about is the music website that was established in Malaysia. This website not implemented with the social network type but the other contents and features are lot likes this system (my system). With this I've think it's worth to do review about this The Wknd website.

**The Wknd** (<http://the-wknd.com/>)



**Figure 1.5-1: The Wknd**

The Wknd is the music website that acts as a promoting platform for the musician to introduce their works and shared their ideas. This website contains video performances, music videos, mp3s, new music, events and the latest in Malaysian and South East Asian music industry. This website stated as the high ranking music website



popularity nowadays. This website is design by Bright Light at Midnight (BLAM) which is an independent design studio that established to provide design and visual communications solutions to clients from a wide range of industries – from business and corporate entities, to social networking communities, to entertainment and arts groups.

I ought to say this website is well-designed and have a capability to send message to viewers but if this website enhance more of its functionality it would be perfect. This website can be categorised as a blog-type website. Like practically everything else on the Web, blogs are easy to start and hard to maintain. Writing coherently is one of the most difficult and time-consuming tasks for a human being to undertake. So, far from blogs being a cheap strategy, they are a very expensive one, in that they eat up time. As a result, many blogs are not updated, thus damaging rather than enhancing the reputation of the organization.

### 1.5.1 Features provided by The Wknd

There are several features that provided in this website. Each of them played uniquely roles to this website. They can be break down into 5 categories.

#### i) News Page

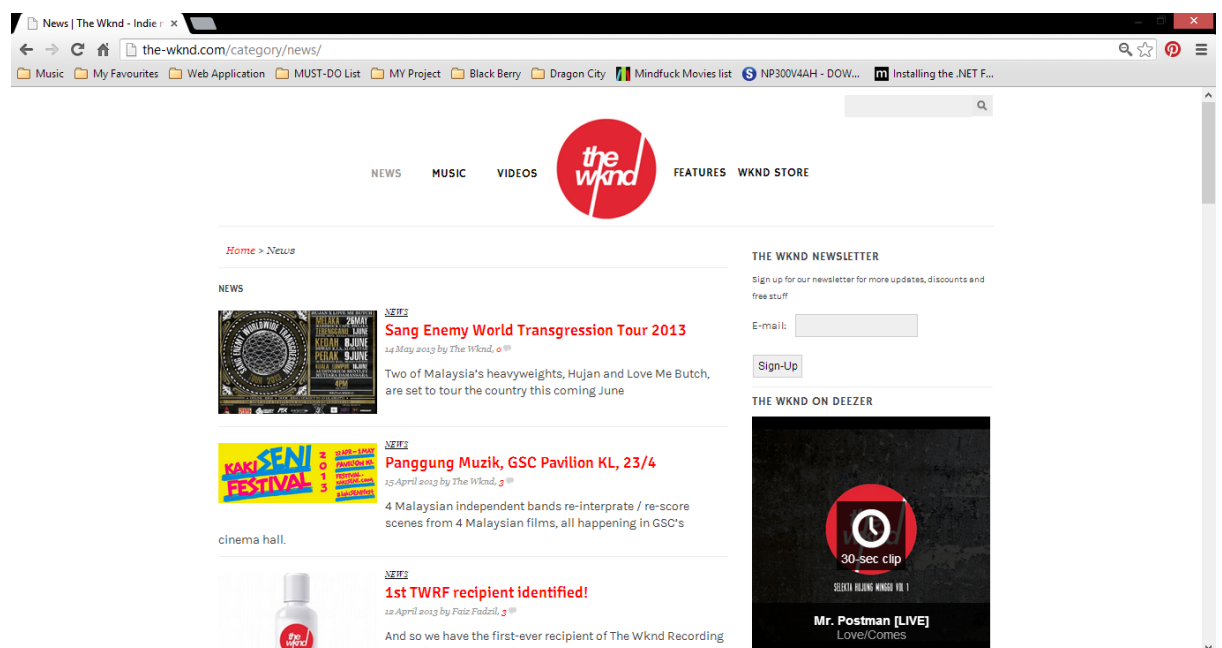


Figure 1.5.1-1: News Page

“News” is the first categories that had three sub categories under its. “News” is a front page that stored information such as news & update, events and photo gallery.

- News & Update – Stored the information about music industry upcoming, on-going, past news and update. In addition, in this section also had others information that unclassified such as reviews and interviews of the musicians and musician groups.
- Events – Stored the information about the upcoming, on-going and past events that happens in Malaysia.
- Photo Gallery – Stored the information about photo that taken on the selected events that occurs around Malaysia.

## ii) Music Page

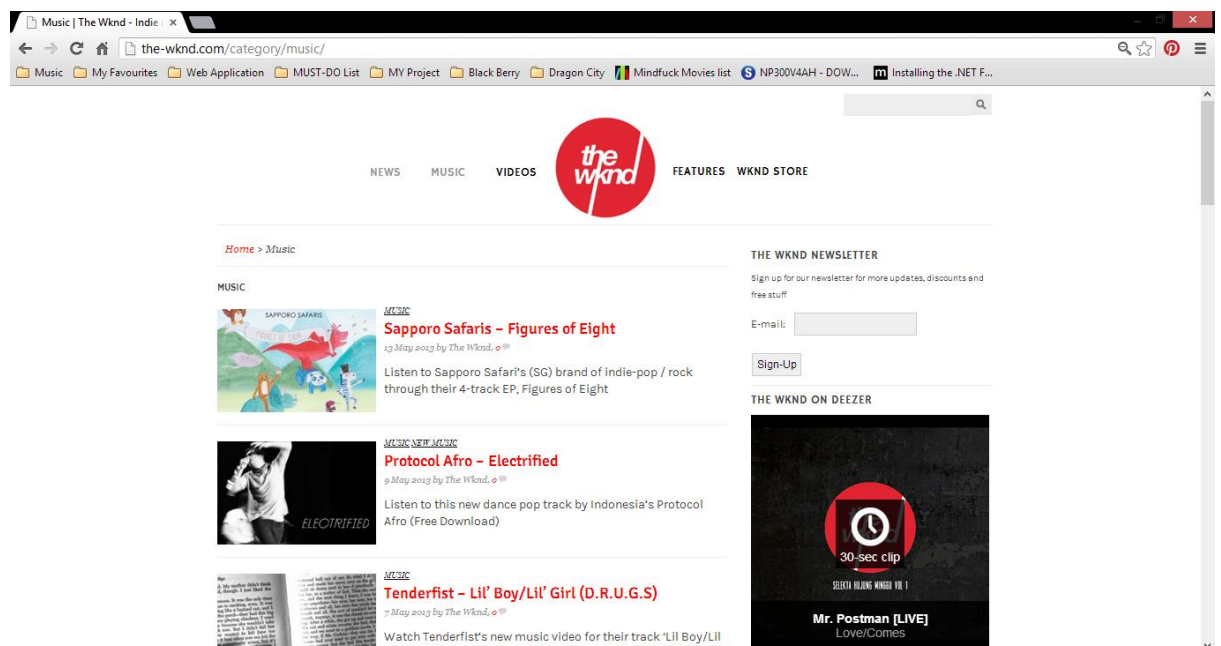


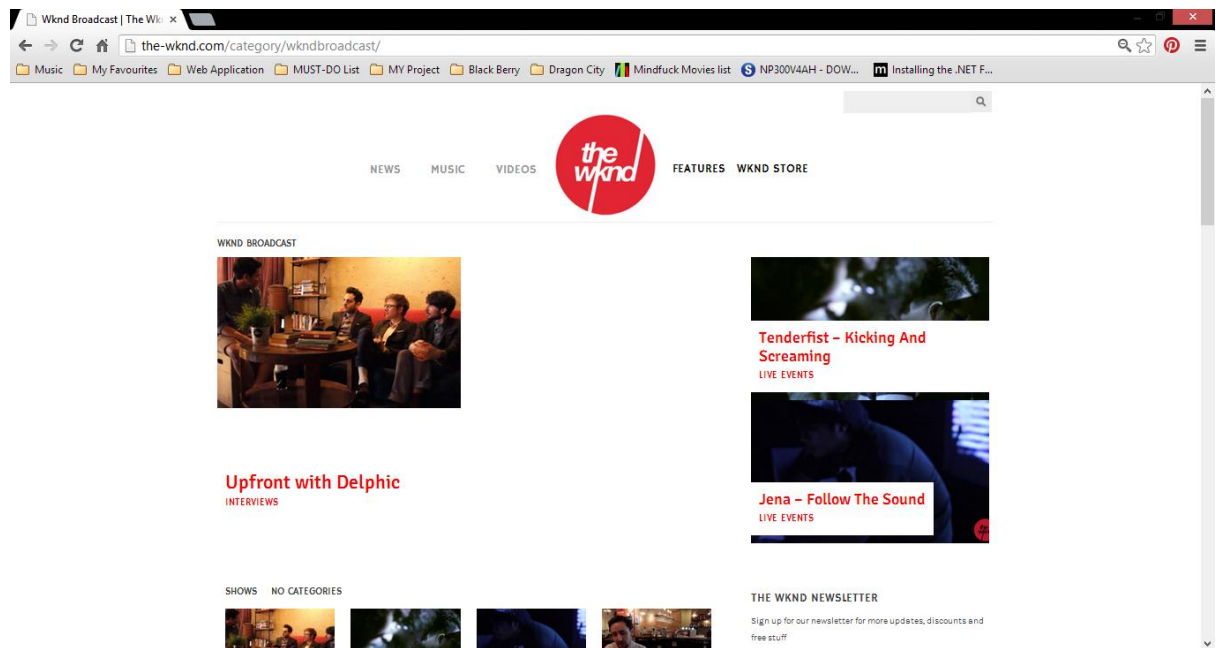
Figure 1.5.1-2: Music Page

“Music” is the second categories that had two sub categories under its. “Music” is a front page that stored information about the songs by the musicians. In this section, certain songs can be streaming and download as well.

- New Music – Stored the information about the up-to-date songs that available on the industry.

- #NOWPLAYING – Stored the information about the selected/favourite song by the selected/favourite musician. Mostly the songs that stored here are from the outside country (Malaysia) that gain achievement in music industry and needed to expose more to the current users on this website.

### iii) Videos Page



**Figure 1.5.1-3: Videos Page**

“Videos” is the third categories that had six sub categories under its. Same with others features; “Video” is a front page that stored information about the video matters. Mainly information that store in this features are live video that recorded in the selected events, interviews, and music videos.

#### iv) Features Page

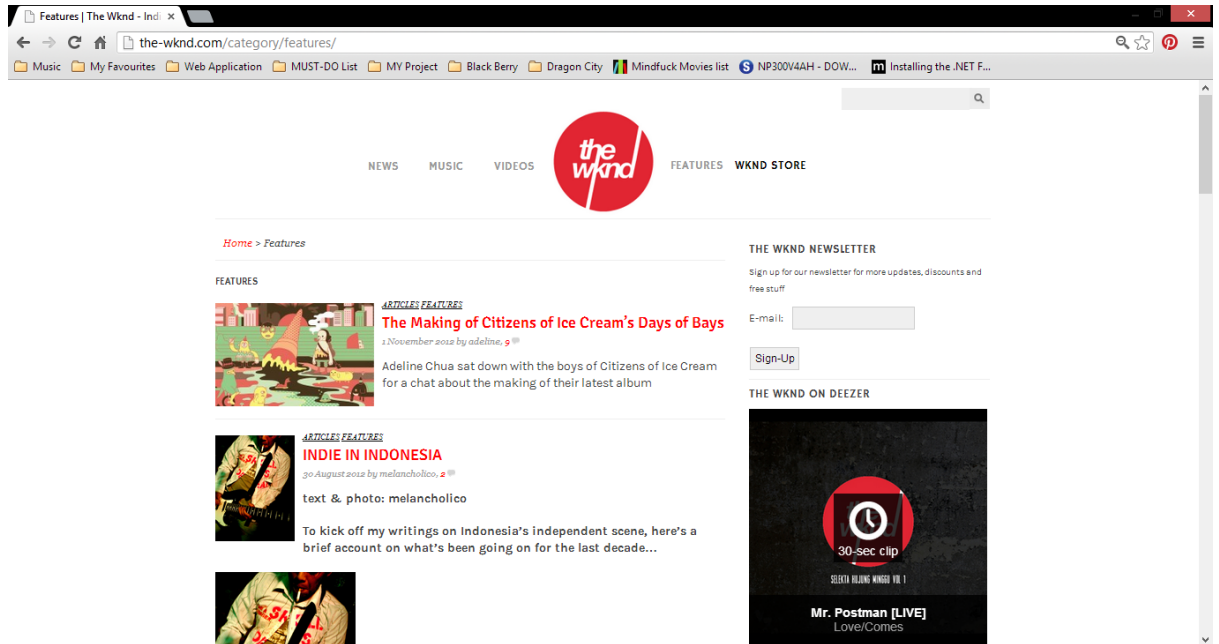


Figure 1.5.1-4: Features Page

“Features” is the fourth categories that provided in this website. It contains the information such as articles and musician-talk. “Features” here can be categorized as topic that unclassified as others features that provided by this website.

#### v) WKND Store Page

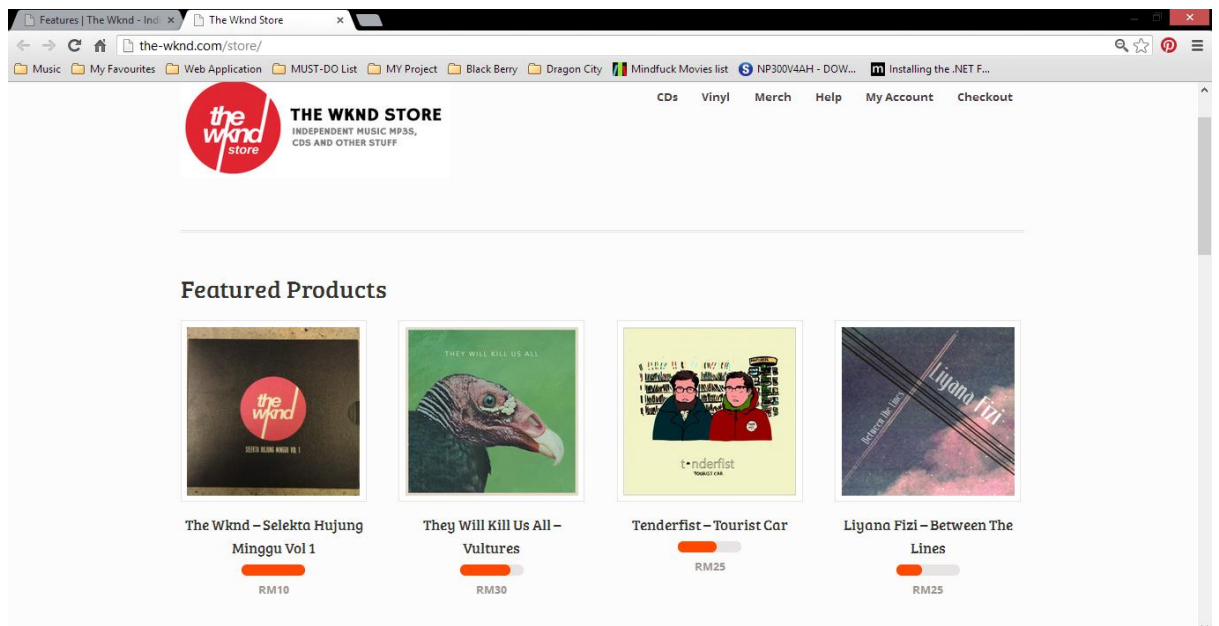


Figure 1.5.1-5: Wknd Store Page

“WKND Store” is the page where business transaction is occurs. This page is about the website store that contains information such as albums and materials to be sold. User needed an account to purchase the materials here. Add to cart systems had been implemented here. Purchasing can be done via bank transfer, PayPal account and credit card transfer.

### 1.5.2 Limitation of The Wknd

Limitation described by the dictionary is restrictive weakness or lack of capacity. We as human can't avoid this limitation. There are several points that found in this website regarding its limitation.

#### **System Function**

- The first limitation is about the playlist for the songs. In this website, the playlist is embedded is from the Soundcloud plugin. Soundcloud is an online audio distribution platform that allows collaboration, promotion and distribution of audio recordings by users. Limitation issues here are about the performance. Streaming for the songs will lead into poor performance. Internet connection will divided since neither The Wknd website nor Soundcloud used Internet.
- The Wknd website is using a blog type structured so several disadvantages can be recognized with this situation.
- The third limitation of this website can be found with the lack of contents and important features. For example, it contains no detail about musician and users require to look for this information in other site if they intend to do. This information is really important to development for music website.
- The fourth limitation of this website is the poor usability such as no sorting system for type of music for easy access to the musician and lack of management.

#### **Admin**

- This website is controlled by the admin who authorized to alter the website. Admin controlled all of the information that send via email by providers and present it at

this website. Any unintended contents can be alter and delete if necessary. So, admin take part as connection between users and the system.

### User

- User can created their own profiles to get special abilities such as gets more update, discounts and free stuffs. But a social network features such as interacting with each other's, get comments and others socialize are not provided by this website

#### 1.5.3 Comparison between The Wknd and Online Music Store

	<b>The Wknd</b>	<b>Online Music Store</b>
<b>Social network</b> – Messaging – Comments – Discussion board (forum)	Not have	Have
<b>Admin account</b>	Have	Have
<b>User account</b> – User profiles – Photo album – Rating	Have (photo album only)	Have
<b>Musician account</b> – Musician profiles – Content management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Details</li> <li>• Albums</li> <li>• Pictures</li> <li>• Video</li> <li>• Songs</li> </ul>	Not have Control by admin	Have Control by registered musician
<b>Business transaction</b> 1. Add to cart system	Have	Have

**Table 1.5.3-1: Features Differences**

## **1.6 Method of Approach**

To develop a good system, we need to choose a suitable Software Development Life Cycle for this system. To develop this system, first I need to clarify all the requirements needed for this system. After all requirements have been stated and analysed, I need to design a good User interface for this system. There will be a continuous interactive process that allows users to understand, modify, and eventually approve a working model of the system that meets their needs. The third phase is the construction phases, which mean the system, will start to develop. In this phase user will be taking part in development and still can suggest for improvement. The last one is the Cutover Phases is the final task of the methodology. From above phases, the most suitable methodology for this kind of system is Rapid Application Development Methodology.

## **1.7 Scope and Limitation**

The uses of software and hardware:

### **1. Software:**

- i) PHP languages
- ii) XAMPP
  - Apache web server
  - MySQL Database
- iii) Adobe Dreamweaver CS5
- iv) Adobe Photoshop CS5
- v) Microsoft Visio 2010

### **2. Hardware:**

- i) Laptop
- ii) Desktop

Users or respondents:

1. Users
  - i) Unregistered users
  - ii) Registered users
  - iii) Musician
2. Supervisor
3. PSM Coordinator

## **1.8 Outline of Material**

The overall of this report consist of three (3) main parts.

Part 1 will discuss on the purpose of the project, current system and its limitation.

Part 2 will discuss on user requirement specification, design description and test planning on the system.

Part 3 will discuss on the conclusion obtain in the overall process of the development of the system.